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TECHNICAL NOTE

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Bureau of Land Management U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

USE AND CARE OF JACKS

The Portland Service Center has made a survey of the use and care of the Handyman Jack. We have learned that many of the Districts favor this jack over others because of its versatility. However, problems have been encountered with jacks because of the lack of proper care and improper use.

The Handyman Jack, as illustrated below, will perform satisfactorily if the following instructions for its use and care are followed. These instructions should be given to all drivers whose vehicles are furnished with this jack.

1. To raise jack, lock the reversing latch in an "up" position.

2. Keep all working parts oiled and clean, in front and back (unpainted faces of standard lightly greased and free from rust).

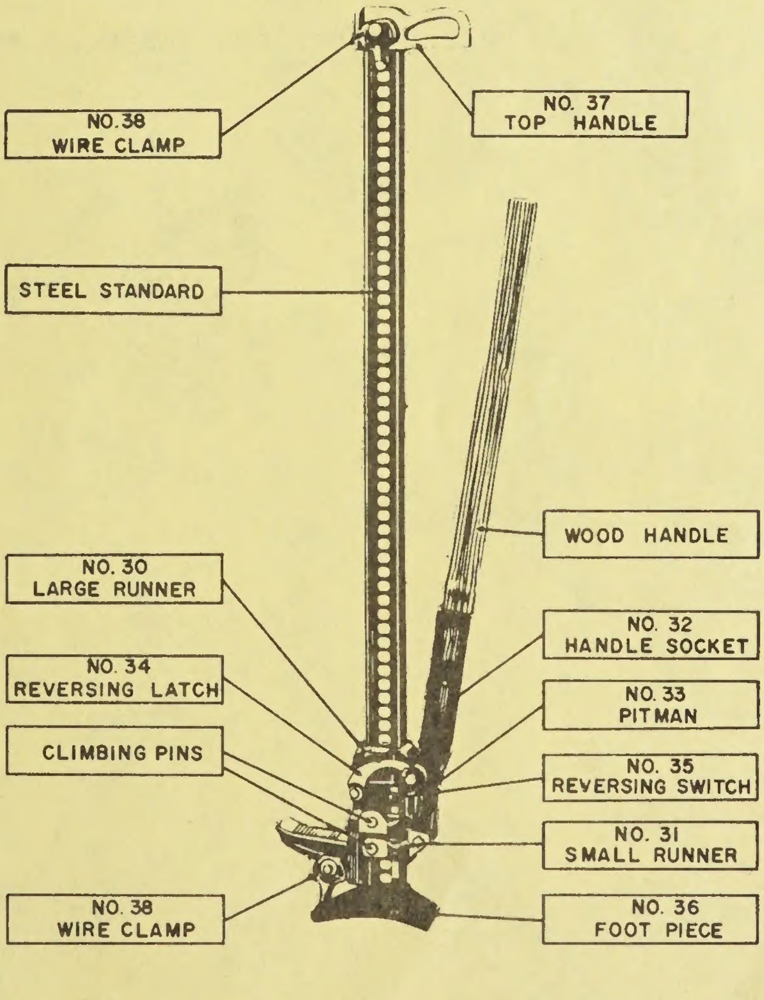
3. This jack must be loaded to 100 pounds or more to lower step by step.

4. A shear pin and small runner, No. 31, will break at 3-1/2 tons (7,000 pounds). If this shear pin breaks, it can be replaced only with a common 5/16th inch diameter machine bolt. When working with this jack always keep a firm grip on handle when raising or lowering a load. Top handle, No. 37, forms a clevice when turned vertically.

5. The running gear easily pulls up to point of lift.

6. When replacing running gear, see that climbing pins enter holes in the standard from the smooth side. Edges of the holes are rough on back side.

Handyman JACK No. 30 Model



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7. Wood handle can be removed easily if longer metal handle is used. As a substitution a 1-inch diameter pipe, slightly flattened at one end will fit. To raise a high load, remove top handle, No. 37, and slip a piece of pipe over steel standard for any desired extension.

8. When not in use, working parts may be protected from mud and sand by using a section of innertube or burlap to cover the running gear.

9. If jack remains loaded, additional precaution may be taken by slipping a bolt through the standard immediately below the running gear.

The Winch Jack, which is manufactured by the RNE Manufacturing Company, P. O. Box 948, Lakeview, Oregon, is preferred by some District Offices over the Handyman Jack. The Winch Jack is essentially a low gear ratio pulley arrangement which has three speeds for lifting different weight units. It is composed of three basic parts: base, leg, and hand crank pulley. It also has enclosed gears and a friction brake.

Jacks, if not cared for and used properly may create hazards, i.e., broken fingers, arms, facial injuries, or even a fatality. Jacks should be cleaned at regular intervals or after use, inspected for worn components, and should be stored in a proper box or wrapped in burlap or similar material.

A jack will perform only as good as the persons using it.